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LETTER DATED 29 MARCH 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I would like to bring to your attention the growing number of terrorist activities directed against Israeli citizens. Militant Islamic fundamentalist groups, such as Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, and other terrorist organizations, such as the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), have blazed a trail of bloodshed and violence in the hope of diverting us all away from the road towards reconciliation and peace. Resorting to stabbings, shootings and stonings, the Palestinian terrorists have stepped up their campaign of iniquity. They target Israelis and they target Palestinians, while their main target is the peace process, which they want to kill.

Since 1 March 1993, 12 Israelis have been killed and more than 21 others wounded as a result of terrorist acts. The following is a list of some of the attacks that have taken place:

On 1 March 1993, an Arab terrorist armed with two knives went on a rampage in the streets of Tel Aviv, indiscriminately stabbing innocent passers-by. The terrorist killed Azaryah Natan and Grigory Abramov and wounded seven others. The Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack. The perpetrator was arrested.

On 2 March 1993, Yehoshua Weisbrod, an employee of the Petrolgas company, drove into the city of Rafah, apparently by mistake. He was greeted by an angry crowd, which proceeded to stone his car. Under a hail of rocks, he lost control of his vehicle and crashed into a telephone pole. Two armed members of Fatah then approached his car, and one of them shot Mr. Weisbrod to death at point-blank range.

On 3 March 1993, Nadav Zlotnick, a student at Yeshivat Ateret Cohanim in Jerusalem, was stabbed and injured by an Arab woman from Ramallah, who was arrested.

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

On 4 March 1993, Amikam Gutman, a student at Yeshivat Shuvu Banim in Jerusalem, was stabbed in the back. The attacker fled the scene.

On 8 March 1993, Uri Magidish, a husband and father of four children and a resident of Gan-Or in Gush Katif, was brutally stabbed to death by two Arab workers who were riding with him in his car. Evidence linking the perpetrators to Fatah was found near the body.

On 10 March 1993, David Liebeskind, a reserve soldier, was stabbed and seriously wounded on the way to his base in Nazareth. The two terrorists who perpetrated the attack were apprehended.

On 11 March 1993, a terrorist from Khan Yunis stabbed an Israeli resident of Rehovot in his greenhouse. The terrorist has not yet been apprehended.

On 11 March 1993, Assaf Dayan, a 15-year-old youth, was stabbed in the neck by a terrorist at his father's factory near the Erez checkpoint. The terrorist fled the scene but was later apprehended.

On 12 March 1993, terrorists fired at an Israel Defence Forces (IDF) vehicle at the Tapuah junction, wounding two servicemen, Boaz Habster and Yuval Dror.

On 12 March 1993, Simha Levy, a 50-year-old resident of Gush Katif, was found dead in the minibus she had used to transport Arab workers to their places of work. Terrorists had struck her in the head with an axe and stabbed her in the neck.

On 12 March 1993, the body of Yehoshua Friedberg, a recent immigrant from Canada who had joined the IDF and who had been missing for five days, was found alongside the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway. He had been shot in the chest and the neck.

On 15 March 1993, Shlomo Haber, a 22-year-old new immigrant from the United States, was stabbed in the chest in Afula by a terrorist from Shechem (Nablus) and hospitalized. The terrorist was apprehended, and two of his brothers are known to be active in the terrorist group known as the "Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine".

On 15 March 1993, a grenade was thrown at an IDF post in Dir el-Balah, wounding serviceman Yuval Dekel.

On 15 March 1993, a terrorist armed with a knife stabbed and wounded William Belaish in Beit Shemesh. After a brief struggle, the terrorist escaped.

On 20 March 1993, terrorists opened fire on an IDF patrol vehicle in the Jabalya refugee camp, killing a soldier, Yossi Shabtai. The terrorists escaped in a getaway car. Hamas and a faction of the Islamic Jihad both claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 20 March 1993, terrorists fired at an IDF patrol jeep near the village of Burkin on the Trans-Samarian Highway near Ariel, killing reserve

Corporal Avissar Gitai and wounding two other soldiers. Hamas and the terrorist group known as the "Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine" claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 21 March 1993, an IDF soldier was wounded when shots were fired at an IDF patrol in Khan Yunis.

On 22 March 1993, a terrorist armed with a knife burst into the school yard of the ORT Kennedy High School in the Talpiot neighbourhood of Jerusalem. To shouts of "Allahu Akbar", he proceeded to stab five teenage students and the principal of the school before being subdued and arrested.

On 23 March 1993, terrorists opened fire in Beit Govrin on a vehicle carrying two employees of the Ministry of Agriculture, wounding one of them in the hand and head.

On 23 March 1993, an IDF serviceman was wounded in the leg when shots were fired at an IDF patrol in the Gaza district.

On 27 March 1993, border policeman Jamal Masalha, a Muslim Arab who had volunteered to serve in the IDF, was shot to death by a terrorist in Tulkarem.

On 28 March 1993, Yehuda Gawi was stabbed to death by two Arab terrorists in Nisanit, in the Gaza district.

On 28 March 1993, Eli Glicko was stabbed in the back and moderately wounded on the Jerusalem promenade by a terrorist.

The aforementioned attacks were but the most recent in a wave of terror and violence perpetrated by those opposed to the peace process.

It should be noted that the terrorists have also targeted Palestinians. In the month of March 1993 alone, 11 Palestinians have been killed and 8 wounded by other Palestinians. Since the start of the intifadah, 864 Palestinians have been killed and more than 2,242 others injured in attacks carried out by fellow Palestinians.

Hamas, the Islamic Jihad and various factions of the PLO are behind the savage and ruthless attacks outlined above, and they continue to incite their followers to carry out more such attacks.

In an interview on Radio Monte Carlo on 22 March 1993, Yasser Arafat called for "escalating the intifadah" and said that "the ground should burn under the feet of the invaders".

In a radio broadcast on 9 December 1992 marking the anniversary of the beginning of the intifadah, Yasser Arafat said,

"We are entering the sixth year more determined to intensify our struggle on all fronts in order to step up the intifadah with the thrust of its masses and to promote fierce confrontations with the occupation forces in order to engulf the land with wrath against the usurper ... May the

volcanoes of wrath erupt against the usurping occupier in every village, town and camp ... It is revolution until victory, until victory, until victory!" (Voice of Palestine, 9 December 1992; cited in FBIS-NES-92-238, pp. 8-9).

In an interview published in Al-Quds Al-Arabi on 7 January 1993, Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan said, "All Zionist leaders at present belong to Europe, thus they belong to racist and Nazi thinking ... continuing and stepping up the struggle inside the occupied territories is essential" (cited in FBIS-NES-93-007, pp. 10-11).

On 26 January 1993, Sheikh Assad Tamimi, head of the Islamic Jihad, told Reuters that his group would try "to promote jihad and to continue to develop our means of armed struggle". He added that, "the more you attack Jews, the more you gain in popular support".

On 12 January 1993, the text of a joint statement of coordination between Hamas and the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah (UNLI) was issued. The statement said, "UNLI and Hamas call on the strike forces and the throwing hands to coordinate on the field to crown the unified action in order to burn the land beneath the feet of the soldiers ..." (Voice of Palestine, 12 January 1993; cited in FBIS-NES-92-009, p. 5).

The Government of Israel is determined to continue to fight terrorism. At the same time, despite the provocations and despite the terrorist attacks, it is committed to doing its utmost to promote the peace process. We look forward to the resumption of the peace negotiations on the date set by the two co-sponsors of the talks, the United States of America and the Russian Federation, and we hope that all the parties to the negotiations will participate.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Moshe MELAMED
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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